

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows:

- Sub B*
1. (Amended) A masking apparatus for transferring an image to a working surface, comprising:
- (a) a mask having an outer surface and an inner surface; said inner surface having an adhesive disposed thereon;
 - (b) a backing removably affixed to said mask at said inner surface;
 - (c) a plurality of designs formed in said mask;
 - (d) said mask adapted to be removably attached to said working surface at said inner surface; and
 - (e) said apparatus selectively dispensable to continuously cover the entire portion of the working surface where the image is to be transferred such that the apparatus does not have to be repeatedly applied after each use to achieve the image transfer along the working surface.

RESPONSE

A. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In Paragraph 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-5 because the Examiner found the limitation reciting a “predetermined portion” to be unclear. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to remove the reference to a “predetermined portion” and to clarify what was meant by such limitation. Accordingly, Applicant believes that it has overcome this rejection.

B. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 3 as being anticipated by Ogorzalek, U.S. Patent No. 5,460,087. Ogorzelak teaches a template that must be